

**Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs**  
**September 21, 2008 Meeting Summary**

The Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs held its September meeting at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, with H. Sook Wilkinson, Chairperson, presiding. This meeting was hosted by Northern Michigan University and the 2008 UNITED Conference.

Chairperson Wilkinson thanked Council member Dr. Leslie Wong, president of Northern Michigan University, for his persistence in urging the Council to meet in Marquette. She also extended her thanks to Dr. Judith Puncochar, coordinator of the UNITED conference and other NMU staff who organized the entire meeting to perfection! She also extended her thanks for the continuing support given to the Council by the directors of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, Linda V. Parker, and the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth, Keith W. Cooley.

Special guests Representative Steve Lindberg, 109<sup>th</sup> House District (Marquette), welcomed Council members to Marquette, and Professor Russell M. Magnaghi presented a historical perspective on APA history and culture in the Upper Peninsula.

A portion of this month's meeting was "Town Hall" format, and there was lengthy discussion about how best to increase APA curriculum in schools, how to decrease the marginalization of minority students in schools and how APA and other international students can be encouraged to enroll at Northern Michigan University.

Other Business and Announcements: Council member Guozhen Lu was asked to prepare a preliminary proposal for a 2009 trip to China for interested Council members. Chairperson Wilkinson announced the Council had written a letter of support for the Anti Bias Crime Bill (HB 6341). Council member (Rep.) Hoon-Yung Hopgood announced that Congressman Mike Honda will be visiting southeast Michigan on Oct. 27. Mr. Honda is the chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

The meeting adjourned at 12 Noon. Next meeting of the Council will be on Friday, December 5, 2008 at the Philippine American Community Center in Southfield.

The Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs was created by a May 2005, Executive Order (No.2005 – 10) from Governor Jennifer M. Granholm, to advise the Governor and the Department of Civil Rights on policy matters pertaining to Asian and Pacific Americans in Michigan. H. Sook Wilkinson, PhD, was appointed Chair of the Council, which was placed administratively inside the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. A copy of the Governor's Executive Order is available on the Governor's website at <http://www.michigan.gov/gov>.